



National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
National Ocean Service
Office of Response and Restoration
Coastal Protection and Restoration Division

NOAA CPRD Program Waste Site Fact Sheet

Site Name: Hamilton Air Field

Site Location: Novato, CA

Congressional District: CA-06 **EPA Region:** 9

Site Description: Hamilton was originally designed as a bomber installation for B-10 and B-12's during the 1930's. The base provided major support to the US Air Forces during WWII and later became a training facility. Areas of concern to NOAA are the releases from the airfield and maintenance centers to the Perimeter Ditch and the wetland. The wetland also received sewer discharges from all base activities. Contaminants detected at Hamilton include metals, dioxin, PCB, and TCE. Species of concern include bay shrimp, Dungeness crab, bent-nose clam, anchovy, English sole, steelhead trout, striped bass, Pacific salmon, and more.

NOAA Activities to Date: As part of the effort to close Hamilton Army Airfield in San Francisco Bay, NOAA is working with local partners to use dredged material from navigational dredging to restore former runways to productive wetlands. Contamination at the site is being evaluated to determine the need for removal. Because the site had subsided several meters since it was diked off from the Bay (pre-1930), it will require over 10 million cubic yards of fill material to create proper elevations in order to achieve a fully functioning tidal wetland. NOAA is working with local partners to use dredged material from navigational dredging to restore former runways to productive wetlands. NOAA evaluated the suitability of dredged material to the design of the project. NOAA also collected water levels, geodetic data and surveying information to reduce the impact on surrounding properties and to determine how much dredged material will be needed. NMFS has supported the restoration of currently diked, former, tidal wetlands into fully functioning tidal wetlands. Restoring these wetlands will provide shelter from predators and food supply for juvenile salmon on their journey out the Golden Gate to the ocean. Many competing uses have been suggested and the CRC program will work with the stakeholders to ensure that any development will be compatible with actions taken to benefit wetland habitat and the salmon fishery.

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